

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ASUNCI 03197 050416Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 PM-05 INR-10 SP-02 /047 W
-----110419 050418Z /11
R 041845Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3687

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STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS:MASS, PA
SUBJECT: KEEPING EMBASSY INFORMED

REF: A. STATE 193921
B. ASUNCION 3106
C. STATE 191774

1. IN THREE RECENT CASES, THE EMBASSY HAS NEITHER BEEN CONSULTED OR NOR INFORMED OF DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE DEPARTMENT WHICH DIRECTLY AFFECT U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN PARAGUAY. IN THE CASE OF AN INVITATION TO ATTEND THE U.S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE, WE WERE INFORMED OF THE DEPARTMENT'S DECISION THROUGH REFTEL A, SEVERAL WEEKS AFTER THE DECISION WAS APPARENTLY MADE AND HAD BEEN PASSED ALONG INFORMALLY THROUGH MILITARY CHANNELS. DESPITE SEVERAL CABLES ASKING STATUS OF INVITATION, THE EMBASSY WAS NEVER ASKED TO COMMENT OR PROVIDE A RECOMMENDATION ON THE MATTER.

2. IN TWO OTHER CASES, AN APPARENT "FREEZE" ON FY 76 FMS CREDITS, COMMUNICATED TO THE PARAGUAYAN GOVERNMENT BUT NOT TO THE EMBASSY (REFTEL B), AND PREPARATION OF THE FY 80 ARA MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PROPOSAL IN WHICH THE BUREAU APPARENTLY INTENDS TO OMIT PARAGUAY (REFTEL C), WE HAVE NEITHER BEEN CONSULTED NOR INFORMED.

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3. WE FEEL THAT EMBASSY SHOULD BE CONSULTED ON ALL SUCH MATTERS UNLESS TIME PRESSURES MAKE THAT IMPOSSIBLE, WHICH DOES NOT SEEM TO BE TRUE IN ANY OF THE ABOVE THREE CASES. WE RECOGNIZE MANY PRIORITIES BUREAU IS FACING AND PERSONNEL SHORTAGES OF THE MOMENT BUT ASK YOU TO RECOGNIZE OUR NEED TO BE KEPT INFORMED BEFORE DE FACTO DECISIONS ARE TAKEN.

WHITE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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